

Poweshiek County, Iowa

Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan



Effective February 2016

Developed by Poweshiek County with professional assistance from
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Homeland Security and Emergency Management

SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Poweshiek County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

Jurisdictional Representatives

Name	Title	Department	Jurisdiction
Diana Dawley	County Auditor	Auditor's Office	Poweshiek County
Lamoyne Guard	County Supervisor	Board of Supervisors	Poweshiek County
Trisha Rooda	Coordinator	Emergency Management	Poweshiek County
Mark Vavroch	Director	Conservation Department	Poweshiek County
Larry Wilson	County Supervisor	Board of Supervisors	Poweshiek County
Dennis Solem	Mayor	City Administration	City of Brooklyn
Brandon Wanders	Chief	Fire Department	City of Deep River
Gordon Canfield	Mayor	City Administration	City of Grinnell
Dan Sicard	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Grinnell
Jim White	Mayor Pro Tem	City Administration	City of Grinnell
Derek Kriegel	Assistant Chief	Fire Department	City of Hartwick
Dawn Hamilton	Mayor Pro Tem	City Administration	City of Malcom
Kim Kolars	City Clerk	Administration	City of Malcom
Whitney Baethke	Deputy Clerk	City Administration	City of Montezuma
JR Shearer	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Montezuma
Corey Simpson	Council Member	City Council	City of Montezuma
Chris Widmer	Firefighter	Fire Department	City of Montezuma
Jeanie Hunter	Council Member	City Council	City of Searsboro
Shirley Tremmel	City Clerk	City Administration	City of Searsboro
Brad Hohensee	Superintendent	Administration	Brooklyn-Guernsey-Malcom School District
Don Lender	Director	Buildings and Grounds	Grinnell-Newburg School District
Kevin Seney	High School Principal	School Administration	Grinnell-Newburg School District
Paul Hawking	Facility Manager	Facility Department	Montezuma School District
Dave Versteeg	Superintendent	Administration	Montezuma School District

Stakeholder Representatives

Name	Last	Title	Agency/Entity
Patty	Conn	Registered Nurse	Mayflower Community
Tracy	Sadler	Facilities Supervisor	Mayflower Community
Tom	Sheets	Director	Public Health / Grinnell Regional

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of hazard mitigation is to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards. Poweshiek County and participating jurisdictions developed this multi-jurisdictional local hazard mitigation plan update to reduce future losses to the County and its communities resulting from hazard events. The plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and to achieve eligibility for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs.

The Poweshiek County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan covers the following jurisdictions that participated in the planning process:

- Unincorporated Poweshiek County
- City of Brooklyn
- City of Deep River
- City of Grinnell
- City of Hartwick
- City of Malcom
- City of Montezuma
- City of Searsboro
- Brooklyn-Guernsey-Malcom School District
- Grinnell-Newburg School District
- Montezuma School District

The City of Guernsey was invited to participate in the plan update. However, City officials did not respond to meeting invitations or requests for data and draft reviews. When the plan is updated during the next 5-year update cycle, the City of Guernsey will again be contacted for participation.

Bi-county Cities

There are two cities within Poweshiek County that have portions of their city limits in adjacent counties: Barnes City and the City of Victor. Barnes City is an official city of Mahaska County to the south, and the City of Victor is an official city of Iowa County to the east. To provide a comprehensive analysis, the Risk Assessment includes the incorporated areas of these cities that are located within the Poweshiek County boundary. Although these cities are not official participants of the *Poweshiek County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan*, they are stakeholders in the planning process and as such, were invited to planning meetings and to

Poweshiek County and the incorporated areas that participated in this plan update developed a Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved by FEMA in April 2011 (hereafter referred to as the *2011 Poweshiek County Hazard Mitigation Plan*). Therefore, this current planning effort serves to update the previous plan.

The plan update process followed a methodology prescribed by FEMA, which began with the formation of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of representatives from Poweshiek County, participating jurisdictions, and stakeholders. The HMPC updated the risk assessment that identified and profiled hazards that pose a risk to the Poweshiek County planning area, assessed the vulnerability to these hazards, and examined the capabilities in place to mitigate them. The planning area is vulnerable to several hazards that are identified, profiled, and analyzed in this plan. Riverine and flash flooding, winter storms, tornadoes and windstorms are among the hazards that can have a significant impact.

Based upon the risk assessment, the HMPC updated goals for reducing risk from hazards. The goals are listed below:

1. Protect the health and safety of residents and visitors.
2. Educate citizens about the dangers of hazards and how they can be prepared.
3. Minimize losses to existing and future structures, with a priority on critical facilities.
4. The continuity of operations will not be significantly disrupted by disasters.

To meet the identified goals, the recommended mitigation action details are in Chapter 4. The HMPC developed an implementation plan for each action, which identifies priority level, background information, ideas for implementation, responsible agency, timeline, cost estimate, potential funding sources, and more.

PREREQUISITES

44 CFR requirement 201.6(c)(5): The local hazard mitigation plan shall include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan. For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

Note to Reviewers: *When this plan has been reviewed and approved pending adoption by FEMA Region VII the adoption resolutions will be signed by the participating jurisdictions and added to Appendix D. A model resolution is provided.*

The following jurisdictions participated in the development of this plan and have adopted the multi-jurisdictional plan. Resolutions of Adoptions are included in Appendix D.

- Unincorporated Poweshiek County
- City of Brooklyn
- City of Deep River
- City of Grinnell
- City of Hartwick
- City of Malcom
- City of Montezuma
- City of Searsboro
- Brooklyn-Guernsey-Malcom School District
- Grinnell-Newburg School District
- Montezuma School District

Model Resolution

Resolution # _____

Adopting the Poweshiek County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization seeking FEMA approval of hazard mitigation plan) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, the U.S Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

Whereas, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments; and

Whereas, an adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) fully participated in the hazard mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials have reviewed the “Poweshiek County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan,” and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Poweshiek County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, adoption by the governing body for the (Name of Government/District/Organization) demonstrates the jurisdictions’ commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals outlined in this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, adoption of this legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the (Name of Government/District/Organization) adopts the “Poweshiek County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan” as an official plan; and

Be it further resolved, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Date: _____

Certifying Official: _____